

The "Recycled Garden" Cheat Sheet

Grow Your Library Herb Kit in Anything!

You don't need fancy pots to grow a chef's garden. Many household items make perfect homes for your new seeds. Use this guide to match your seeds to the right container.

Step 1: Prep Your Container

No matter what you use, it **must** have drainage.

- **The Poke Test:** Use a nail, drill, or soldering iron to poke at least 5–6 holes in the bottom.
- **The Coffee Filter Trick:** Place a coffee filter or a piece of newspaper over the holes before adding soil. This keeps the dirt in but lets the water out!

Step 2: Choose Your "Roommate" Combo

Group these seeds together based on how they like to live:

The "Sun-Lovers" Combo	The "Cool & Moist" Combo	The "Roast & Stew" Combo
Basil, Oregano, Parsley, Sage	Cilantro, Chives, Dill	Rosemary, Thyme, Cutting Celery
Best Container: Large yogurt tubs, milk crates, or wooden drawers.	Best Container: Deep coffee cans, 2-liter soda bottles (cut in half).	Best Container: Colanders (great drainage!), 5-gallon buckets, or old boots.
Care: They love the heat. Let them soak up 6+ hours of sun.	Care: These like a "cool drink." Don't let the soil get bone-dry.	Care: These hate "wet feet." Ensure they have plenty of holes!

Step 3: Size Matters

- **Small (1 quart / Sour Cream Tub):** Perfect for **Chives** or **Thyme**.
- **Medium (2 quart / Juice Carton):** Great for **Cilantro**, **Parsley**, or **Basil**.
- **Large (1 gallon+ / Milk Crate or Bucket):** Best for **Rosemary**, **Sage**, **Dill**, and **Cutting Celery** which need more "leg room" for roots.

 **The "Library Seed Team" Pro-Tips:**

- **Label Everything:** Use the **Bamboo Labels** from your kit or write on a popsicle stick. Nothing is more mysterious than a seedling without a name!
- **The Finger Test:** Stick your finger 1 inch into the soil. If it feels dry like a desert, water it. If it feels damp like a wrung-out sponge, leave it be.
- **Elevate:** If your container is sitting on a flat surface, prop it up on a few bottle caps or pebbles so the water can actually escape the drainage holes.

 **Share Your Story!**

When your recycled garden starts to grow, snap a photo and bring it to the **Evesham Library Seed Exchange!** We love seeing how our community turns "trash" into a "table-ready" harvest.